



Texas Department of Health

Eduardo J. Sanchez, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner of Health

1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756-3199

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us>
1-800-572-5548

Gary R. Bego
Chief Operating Officer

Charles E. Bell, M.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 6, 2002

Asbestos Licensees and Stakeholders

RE: Formal Comments on Texas Asbestos Health Protection Rules

Dear Licensees and Stakeholders:

The Texas Department of Health (TDH), Toxic Substances Control Division, Asbestos Programs Branch, is announcing the beginning of the 30-day formal comment period on the Texas Asbestos Health Protection Rules (TAHPR). The draft TAHPR is located on the Internet at the following locations:

www.tdh.state.tx.us/beh/asbestos

<http://lamb.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/>

Please note that if accessing the above Secretary of State, Texas Registry website (<http://lamb.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/>), scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "text only." From there, click on "current issue." Scroll to the proposed section and look for the Texas Department of Health, Texas Asbestos Health Protection Rules, 25 TAC 295.

Copies of the draft TAHPR can also be obtained by written request to the Asbestos Programs Branch at the following addresses:

Facsimile Number: 512-834-6644
Regular Mail: 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756
Express/Overnight Mail: 8407 Wall Street, Austin, Texas 78754
Electronic Mail: Alyson.Vinsant@tdh.state.tx.us
John.Onyenobi@tdh.state.tx.us

The Asbestos Program will also be holding a public hearing to address the changes to TAHPR. The hearing will be:

December 20, 2002
9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street, Room K-100
Austin, Texas 78756

Please note that this will be the only public hearing concerning comments to the TAHPR.

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All comments are due by **January 6, 2003**. Your submissions should include the section(s) you are commenting on, the change you are suggesting, and the reason for suggesting the change. Please submit all comments in writing to John Onyenobi, P.E., Administrator.

Comments may be faxed, e-mailed or sent through regular mail in care of Mr. Onyenobi to any of the above listed addresses. Please identify all correspondence sent in response to this letter with the heading ***Formal Comments on TAHPR***.

TDH would like to thank you in advance for your assistance with the changes to the TAHPR during this formal comment period. If you have any questions, please call the Asbestos Programs Branch at (512) 834-6610 or toll free in Texas at (800) 572-5548.

Sincerely,

Todd F. Wingler, P.E., Chief
Asbestos Programs Branch

TFW/ebg

